

FLOOD | More than 2.5 inches of rain causes major flooding problems, physical plant blames clogged drains

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drains are larger, and can carry that flow."

Baker said that although the problem appeared to be disastrous, the Physical Plant workers quickly solved the problem by re-routing the drainage system.

"As soon as they got that temporary trough up there, it was just like turning off a water hose," Baker said.

Magruder did not present the only problem around campus. One of the major issues, Baker said, was blockage of the drainage system.

"There were some drains that were covered with leaves," Baker said. "The bad part about it is we had just cleared all of them a day or two before [the flooding]. With all the wind and the amount of leaves falling off the trees, they got covered right back up."

Although the blocked drains were the most obvious factor in the campus flooding issue, it was not the only thing to blame. Baker said that Kirksville is not equipped to handle that much rain in such a short amount of time.

"The city storm sewer system was overwhelmed," Baker said. "In a number of places on campus, we had water coming up out of the drains."

The Physical Plant cannot do anything about Kirksville's drain-

age system, but it can work to make campus more efficient in supporting heavier amounts of rainfall. Baker said work began last summer to fix the drainage problem.

"We are continuing to work on some of the drains around campus," Baker said. "A lot of it can't be prevented because the city system that all of our drains run into can't carry the runoff from these torrential rains."

Senior Jordan Gribble lives off campus and saw the campus flooding from her car as she made her way to Barnett Hall. She said the sight of that much water was almost unreal.

"I looked to my left, and all of Red Barn [Park] was covered," Gribble said. "You couldn't even see any of the walkway. The concrete just disappeared into the water."

Gribble said attempting to park at Barnett Hall was more difficult than usual due to the amount of slow-moving traffic.

"All these cars were backed up," Gribble said. "I think they were afraid to drive because the water was coming onto the street."

John Buckwalter, director and engineer of Kirksville Public Works, agreed with Baker in that the storm sewer system cannot handle the amount of water ex-



Mayank Dhungana/Index

Physical Plant workers use a water pump last Thursday afternoon to remove water from the window well in front of the Pershing Building after 2.5 inches of rain pelted campus and flooded parts of the area.

perienced in a short time like last Thursday. He said some of Kirksville, not just the campus, experienced flooding issues.

All downtown runoff water is directed to Red Barn Park. That is what turned the park into an impassible body of water for a short time Thursday. For now, Buckwalter said, the park will continue to serve that purpose for the entire

runoff system.

"We are constantly trying to improve it, but there are limits," Buckwalter said. "The bottom line is that as much rain as we had with that storm and as high as Bear Creek got, there really isn't a great deal that can be done in the existing system."

Changes to the current system would require land that is not

available. Buckwalter said that people need to pay attention and plan accordingly when Kirksville receives large amounts of rain.

"We need to be aware of where the areas that are impacted are," Buckwalter said. "It is normal for Bear Creek to come out of its banks. It is not normal for it to flood as extensively as we saw last week."

SLATE | Student Senate approves slate of student representative to Board of Governors candidates

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Senate President JoEllen Flanagan and Cody Sumter, current student representative to the Board of Governors, co-chaired the committee.

"We had a very qualified applicant pool, so while these were not necessarily the first candidates that [the committee] brought to the Senate, we are very confident in their abilities," Sumter said.

The student representative position, which is a non-voting position, carries a two-year term.

Nixon will make his selection on a date not yet determined. After Nixon makes his selection, the Missouri State Senate must approve the candidate.

Eleven candidates applied for the position this

year. When Sumter applied in Fall 2007, only two candidates made the slate due to limited applications.

Sumter said the increase in applicants this year could be because of the high-profile situations surrounding the University right now, such as the uncertainty of the University's budget and the search for a new president.

"Things are much more visible — both the things the Board is doing and the administration in general is becoming much more visible to campus," Sumter said.

Crews, Witt and Freeland each expressed their interest in helping Truman grow and accommodate students to its highest potential, whether it be from a technological perspective or encouraging campus diversity.

Witt described herself as an unbiased and well-rounded individual willing to connect with students on campus.

"As a freshman, I believe I can communicate into this position with a clear mind, without bias, and I can relate messages between the Board and the students effectively," Witt said. "And I also believe that this is an opportunity for me to serve the student body and give back to the University."

Crews said his experience with Student Senate as an associate senator has prepared him to take on the responsibility required for representative to the Board of Governors.

"I'm primarily interested in the position because I recognize that Truman is a

great and strong university, but there is a lot of room for growth still, and I have a vision of where I think this university can go to make it even better," Crews said. "I would love to have the opportunity to work with the Board to make that vision a reality."

Freeland is from Kirksville and advocated additional involvement between the campus and the Kirksville community.

"As someone from the community, here [in Kirksville], this would be a good position for me," Freeland said. "Having been around [Truman] for two previous years, I would do a pretty good job as someone who could communicate both to the Board as well as to the students."

Meet the candidates

Adam Crews	
Junior	Involvement: The Newman Center Phi Kappa Phi
Major:	Political science & History
Alexandria Witt	
Freshman	Involvement: Alpha Sigma Gamma
Major:	Political Science & Communication Disorders
Lucas Freeland	
Junior	Involvement: Blue Key
Major:	Physics

ACB | College ACB Web site replaces Juicy Campus in 2008, evokes varied student and faculty reaction, questions ethics and libel behind postings

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anonymity and make whatever claims that one wants to," Smith said. "The person reading needs to take that into account."

Individual users, like students who post on College ACB, can be traced, and a person could file a civil suit against them. A 2006 ruling from a California Supreme Court protected the Web site operator from a lawsuit and the individuals who republished defamatory comments. A student technically is republishing information if he or she posts gossip heard from someone else, Smith said. Ultimately, the California court placed the Web site users at the same level as the Web site operator.

Interim President Darrell Krueger said he had never heard of College ACB or Juicy Campus and has not seen the Web site, he said.

"When [students] get in college, they should have the judgment of what's right and wrong, and to do what they think is

right," Krueger said.

Krueger said he thought one concern brought up by the anonymity of posts is that the posts on Truman's message board might be from students at other universities. Nothing will be done about the Web site unless the student body brings it to his attention and wants change, he said.

"[A post written on the Web site] might come back to haunt you," Krueger said. "The more you act and practice in life what you want to be and what you want to become, the more you become it."

Senior Nicole VanCleave wasn't aware College ACB existed, but was named the nicest girl on campus on the site.

"It was just crazy how honest people were, just putting people's names out there and saying rude things," VanCleave said.

She said some of the posts were terrible, like those that listed "trashy girls."

"People gossip enough," Van-

Cleave said. "You don't need to do it online where everyone else can see it too."

VanCleave said the students posting comments on the site probably are just looking for entertainment, revenge or humor. She said College ACB is unlike other college message boards because College ACB doesn't provide any useful information — it just spreads rumors.

"People just miss high school too much," VanCleave said. "They miss the drama."

Sophomore Nathan McWilliams said he wasn't aware sites like College ACB existed until he found out he was called awkward on one. The post did not surprise him, but was hurtful, he said.

"When I found out I was given a vote for most awkward man on campus, I couldn't help but feel proud and ashamed at the same time," McWilliams said.

He will continue to look for his name on the site, but won't

be posting anything harmful himself, he said. College ACB can be helpful because posters give advice, but harmful because of the defaming comments, he said. McWilliams said he's not sorry for the way he acts at all.

Like McWilliams, junior Ryan Mueller didn't know he was listed as one of the most awkward people on campus on the site, he said. Mueller said he's heard of sites like Juicy Campus and College ACB but has never used them. A post about being awkward is not as negative compared to the other posts on the site, he said. Mueller said he doesn't care anymore because he has an idea of who posted the comment because it was signed with initials.

"I don't feel like it's appropriate to go and post things about other people under anonymity," he said. "If you have a problem with a person, why don't you take it up in person?"

Most of the posts are immature

and harmless but can cause damage to people's reputations, giving others a false impression, Mueller said.

Freshman Hayley Scheerer first saw College ACB and assumed it was just another Internet gossip or blog site, she said. Scheerer said she had mixed reactions and that the rude comments made it seem unreliable. But Scheerer said College ACB shouldn't be banned unless it truly gets out of hand and leads to problems on campus.

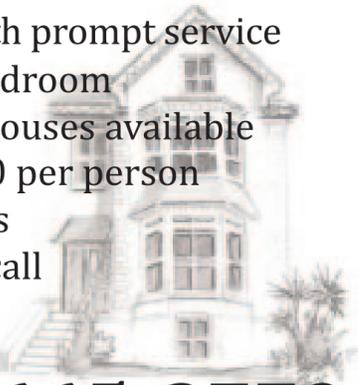
Freshman Cindy Grauel said she thinks the idea of sharing ideas anonymously is a good idea. One of the risks that a student takes when looking at College ACB is reading rude things posted about other students, she said. A positive aspect of the site is that comments might be deleted if reported, Grauel said. The anonymity could be convenient for a project where a large amount of random students need to be surveyed, she said.



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